

Office of the Attorney General State of Texas

DAN MORALES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

November 13, 1996

Mr. Claud Drinnen Assistant City Attorney City of Amarillo P.O. Box 1971 Amarillo, Texas 79105-1971

OR96-2087

Dear Ms. Drinnen:

You have asked whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 101997.

The City of Lubbock (the "city") received a request for a police report. You contend that the requested report is excepted from disclosure pursuant to section 552.108 of the Government Code.

Section 552.108 provides that "[i]nformation held by a law enforcement agency or prosecutor that deals with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime" and "an internal record or notation of a law enforcement agency or prosecutor" that is maintained for internal use in matters relating to law enforcement or prosecution." Gov't Code § 552.108; see Holmes v. Morales, 924 S.W.2d 920 (Tex. 1996). However, information normally found on the front page of an offense report is generally considered public and may not be withheld from disclosure. See generally Houston Chronicle Publishing Co. v. City of Houston, 531 S.W.2d 177 (Tex. Civ. App.--Houston [14th Dist.] 1975), writ ref'd n.r.e. per curiam, 536 S.W.2d 559 (Tex. 1976); Open Records Decision No. 127 (1976).

We note that the information submitted to this office includes front page offense report information. We have enclosed a summary showing the types of information that are generally considered to be public and must be disclosed. The remaining information may be withheld from disclosure.

We are resolving this matter with an informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. This ruling is limited to the particular records at issue

under the facts presented to us in this request and should not be relied upon as a previous determination regarding any other records. If you have questions about this ruling, please contact our office.

Yours very truly,

Ruth H. Soucy

Assistant Attorney General Open Records Division

RHS/ch

Ref.: ID# 101997

Enclosures: Submitted documents

Summary of Open Records Decision No. 127 (1976)

cc: Mr. Davis Ford

7816 Simpson Drive Amarillo, Texas 79121

(w/o documents; w/Summary of Open Records Decision No. 127 (1976))